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## **San Bernardino County Reentry Collaborative (SBCRC) Announces Award to begin Crucial Strategic Planning Process to Assist Reentry of Ex-Offenders into the Community**

**San Bernardino:** On October 18, 2011 the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors approved a grant award of \$39,296 for 12 months from the U.S. Department of Justice for the Second Chance Act Adult Offender Reentry Program for Planning and Demonstration Projects FY 2011.

Approximately 9,000 parolees are released into San Bernardino County each year from the California Department of Rehabilitations and Corrections (CDCR). This number is expected to increase due to Assembly Bill (AB) 109 and AB 117 signed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. earlier this year to release low-level inmates from State prisons.

"The purpose of this funding is to develop and implement comprehensive and collaborative strategies that address the challenges posed by prisoner reentry and reduce recidivism," said Trudy Raymundo, Assistant Director of Public Health.

In response to local public health, public safety and social concerns, the SBCRC will develop subcommittees to focus on specific issues ranging from healthcare services, housing and employment opportunities. "It is crucial that community based organizations (CBOs), faith-based organizations, County Departments, and other stakeholders work together to serve the needs of re-entrants and the community" noted Mrs. Raymundo.

The SBCRC will hold 10 meetings to address project overview, mapping of resources and implementation of the program. In addition, the SBCRC will identify current resources, look for additional funding and foresee barriers that may hinder the reentry process.

For more information about public health services, contact the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health at (800) 782-4264, or visit the website at <http://www.sbcounty.gov/dph/>.

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